



New Mexico Agricultural  
Statistics Service

# Weekly Ag Update

Issue 50-13

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## INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather

Ag Land Values

Livestock Slaughter

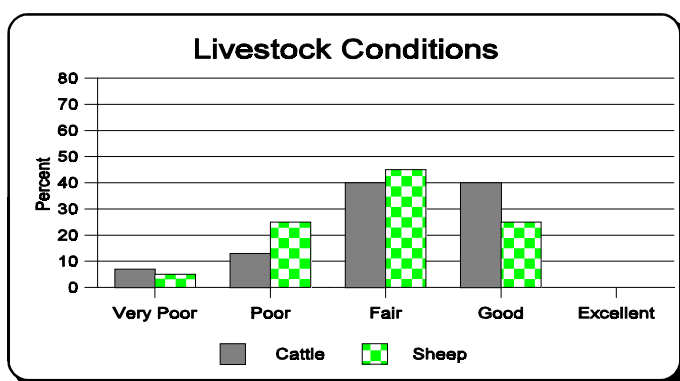
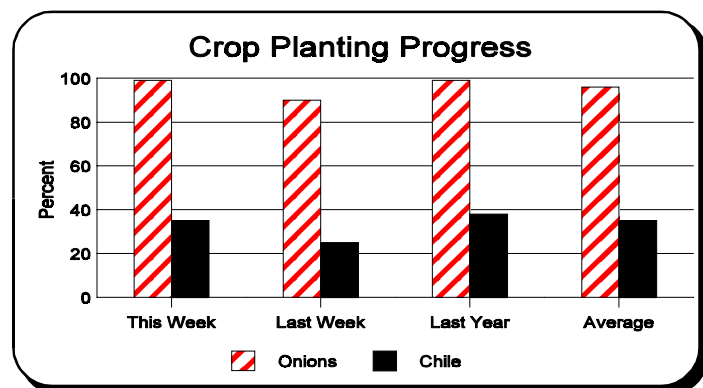
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## CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 26, 2000

**NEW MEXICO:** Much needed moisture finally was received in the State last week helping to ease drought conditions being felt in many areas and improving the outlook for most crops. As a result of the storm, days suitable for field work declined to an average of 5.0 days. The main farm activities during the week were irrigating, planting chile, potatoes and small grains. Onion planting was just about completed for the year and remained mostly good to excellent condition. Chile planting was 35% complete and was rated in fair to excellent condition. Potato planting was winding down in Curry County. Both irrigated and dryland wheat conditions improved as a result of the moisture. Fruit trees in the northern areas of the State were beginning to bloom, creating some concern for late season frost damage. Ranchers continued some supplemental feeding. Cattle were reported in fair to good condition, while sheep were in mostly poor to fair condition. Pasture and range feed conditions improved somewhat during the week and were reported at 15% very poor 30% poor, 40% fair, and 15% good.

## CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
PLANTED	Onions	99	90	99	96
	Chile	35	25	38	35

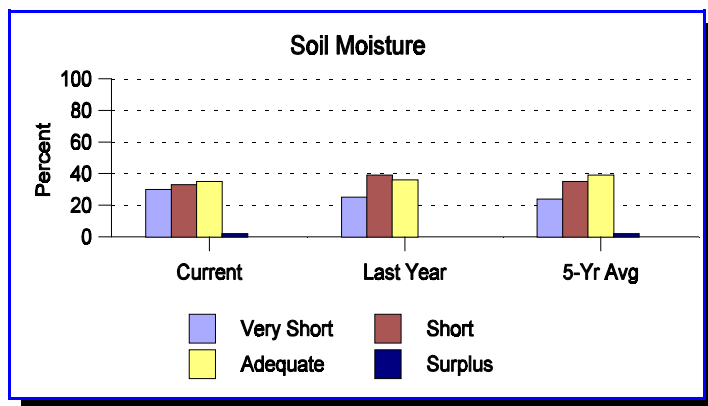


## CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	4	10	57	27	2
Chile	--	--	20	30	50
Dry Wheat	30	25	45	--	--
Irrigated Wheat	4	10	50	36	--
Lettuce	5	5	5	25	60
Onions	--	--	20	20	60
Cattle	7	13	40	40	--
Sheep	5	25	45	25	--

### SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	--	3	87	10
Northeast	10	53	36	1
Southwest	67	23	10	---
Southeast	74	26	---	---
State	30	33	35	2
State-Last Year	25	39	36	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	24	35	39	2



### WEATHER SUMMARY

The wettest, most intense storm of the entire cold season moved across New Mexico during the middle of the week. All areas of the state received some precipitation, but amounts in the extreme southeast were less than one tenth of an inch. Heaviest totals were in the Central Valley and Northeast Plains, where stations averaged about an inch of water equivalent. Snowfall totals exceeded 20 inches in the Sangre de Cristos and also portions of the Gila Region. The statewide temperature average for the week was within a degree of normal.

### NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MARCH 20-26, 2000

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/20 03/26	03/01 03/26	Normal Mar	01/01 03/26	Normal Jan-Mar
Carlsbad	59.4	87	37	0.02	0.04	0.30	0.13	1.00
Hobbs	58.2	82	34	0.05	0.05	0.56	0.05	1.50
Roswell	54.9	83	26	0.78	0.78	0.33	0.78	1.14
Clayton	47.9	73	33	1.06	2.45	0.55	2.79	1.10
Clovis	52.6	79	37	0.66	1.04	0.59	1.06	1.49
Roy	42.9	68	26	1.65	1.65	0.55	1.65	1.32
Tucumcari	53.5	79	36	1.13	1.30	0.40	1.30	1.13
Chama	39.9	60	25	0.29	0.76	1.99	3.46	5.34
Johnson Ranch	40.8	63	22	1.34	2.09	0.74	2.55	1.98
Capulin	40.2	64	22	0.35	1.34	0.89	1.62	1.85
Las Vegas	43.1	69	27	1.22	1.54	0.56	1.67	1.27
Los Alamos	42.3	61	28	0.86	0.99	1.22	1.30	2.88
Raton	42.1	69	24	0.19	1.49	0.83	1.53	1.84
Santa Fe	44.9	69	24	0.13	0.54	0.74	0.80	2.06
Red River	35.4	57	18	1.03	2.26	1.78	4.70	4.07
Farmington	45.6	70	31	0.75	1.39	0.81	2.43	1.97
Gallup	42.6	69	20	0.62	1.08	1.05	1.87	2.59
Grants	39.8	67	18	0.13	0.33	0.50	0.47	1.50
Silver City	44.9	69	24	0.25	0.53	0.96	0.53	3.37
Quemado	36.1	63	10	0.84	1.31	0.63	1.75	1.69
Albuquerque	48.4	70	33	0.83	1.07	0.54	1.63	1.44
Carrizozo	---	---	---	---	---	0.57	---	1.74
Gran Quivera	44.8	67	20	1.25	1.46	0.72	1.54	2.24
Moriarty	43.5	71	13	0.63	0.65	0.53	0.73	1.44
Ruidoso	41.8	66	24	0.19	0.30	1.33	0.40	3.61
Socorro	48.6	76	32	1.08	1.21	0.27	1.25	1.05
Alamogordo	53.0	77	34	---	---	0.46	---	1.67
Animas	52.1	77	29	0.34	0.34	0.47	0.34	1.66
Deming	52.9	78	31	0.47	0.60	0.34	0.63	1.36
T or C	48.3	75	30	1.19	1.27	0.34	1.27	1.18
Las Cruces	52.0	80	33	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.21	1.05

(T) Trace (-) No Report (\*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

## AGRICULTURAL LAND VALUES

The U.S. farm real estate value, including all land and buildings, averaged \$1,050 per acre on January 1, 2000, up 2.9 percent from January 1, 1999. The \$30 per acre increase in farm real estate value during 1999 continued the climb that began in 1987. However, the 2.9 percent increase is the smallest percentage gain since 1992. The overall increase was slowed by cropland values which rose only 2.1 percent during 1999.

Regional increases in values of farm real estate during 1999 ranged from 0.5 to 8.5 percent. The Southeast and Lake regions, at \$1,920 and \$1,490 per acre, showed the largest percentage gains from last year, at 8.5 and 7.2 percent, respectively. All regions continued to post record highs with the exceptions of the Southern and Northern Plains which have yet to surpass the highs reached in the 1980's. The Northeast Region with its urban influences had the highest average value of farm real estate at \$2,470 per acre. While the Mountain region with its extensive pasture and rangeland has the lowest value at \$437 per acre.

**New Mexico's** farm real estate value, at \$215 per acre, is down slightly from 1999. The real estate value has remained stable during the last 5 years, ranging from \$212 to \$217 per acre.

**Farm Real Estate: Average Value per Acre, by Region and State, January 1, 1996-2000**

Region/State	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Change 99-00
	-----Dollars-----					----Percent----
Northeast	2,220	2,240	2,280	2,370	2,470	4.2
Lake States	1,130	1,200	1,280	1,390	1,490	7.2
Corn Belt	1,510	1,610	1,730	1,830	1,840	0.5
Northern Plains	463	481	499	510	526	3.1
Appalachian	1,550	1,630	1,720	1,840	1,940	5.4
Southeast	1,580	1,630	1,700	1,770	1,920	8.5
Delta States	1,020	1,070	1,130	1,180	1,230	4.2
Southern Plains	541	557	596	613	631	2.9
<b>Mountain</b>	383	399	415	426	440	3.3
Arizona	880	920	987	1,070	1,140	6.5
Colorado	558	590	618	630	640	1.6
Idaho	900	960	1,020	1,090	1,170	7.3
Montana	289	291	294	296	300	1.4
Nevada <sup>1/</sup>	332	366	392	420	440	4.8
<b>New Mexico<sup>1/</sup></b>	212	215	217	217	215	-0.9
Utah <sup>1/</sup>	740	780	807	855	900	5.3
Wyoming	206	215	222	220	235	6.8
Pacific	1,670	1,730	1,780	1,870	1,890	1.1
48 States	887	926	974	1,020	1,050	2.9

<sup>1/</sup>Excludes Native American Reservation Land.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

**NEW MEXICO:** Cattle slaughter in New Mexico during February totaled 1,500 head, 1,000 head below last February. The average live weight, at 1,011 pounds, was 108 pounds higher than a year earlier. Total live weight fell to 1.47 million pounds, 34 percent below last February. Sheep and lamb slaughter decreased 700 head to 2,600 head. Total live weight, at 309,000 pounds, was 23 per cent below a year earlier. Average live weight was 118 pounds, 3 pounds below last February's average weight.

**UNITED STATES:** Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, up 8 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,225 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 95 thousand head, down 5 percent from February 1999. The average live weight was 32 pounds above last year, at 318 pounds. Hog kill totaled 8.07 million head, 2 percent above 1999. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 261 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 293 thousand head, 2 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

**Commercial Livestock Slaughter, New Mexico and U.S., February 1999 and 2000<sup>1/</sup>**

	New Mexico						United States					
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live weight		Average Live weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live weight		Average Live weight	
	'99	'00	'99	'00	'99	'00	'99	'00	'99	'00	'99	'00
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds		1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	2.5	1.5	2,228	1,470	903	1,011	2,722.5	2,937.1	3,324,180	3,598,357	1,221	1,225
Calves <sup>2/</sup>	---	---	---	---	---	---	99.8	95.1	28,511	30,190	286	318
Hogs	0.3	0.3	58	60	211	213	7,907.7	8,067.3	2,044,799	2,108,491	259	261
Sheep/lambs	3.3	2.6	402	309	121	118	299.5	293.0	40,513	40,417	135	138

<sup>1/</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter. <sup>2/</sup> State data included in U.S. total. Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations.